

Julie Masters, Mayor  
Charles Suderman, Mayor Pro Tem  
Sean Skipworth  
Walter Wilson

**MINUTES**  
City of Dickinson  
**CITY COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

Wally Deats  
Louis Decker  
William H. King III  
Chris Heard, City Administrator

**March 10, 2020**

The Dickinson City Council met in a duly called and announced **REGULAR MEETING** on **Tuesday, March 10, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.** The meeting was held in the City Council Chambers located at 4403 Highway 3, Dickinson, Galveston County, Texas, and was held for the purpose of considering the following items:

**ITEM 1.) CALL TO ORDER AND CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM**

Mayor Masters called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. City Secretary Alun Thomas called roll and certified a quorum. Council Members present were as follows: Mayor Julie Masters, Mayor Pro-Tem Charles Suderman, and Council Members Sean Skipworth, Walter Wilson, Wally Deats, Louis Decker, and William H. King, III. Also present were City Attorney David Olson, City Administrator Chris Heard, Finance Director Kristen Woolley, Interim Director of Community Development S. R. Burgess, Fire Marshal Burt Heddles, Police Captain Melvin Mason, and Assistant to the City Administrator Kerilyn Bascle.

**ITEM 2.) INVOCATION**

Pastor Johnnie Simpson, Jr. gave the invocation.

**ITEM 3.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council Member Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM 4.) PROCLAMATIONS**

None.

**ITEM 5.) ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

**A. Council Comments.**

- Welcome and thank you to all for attending the meeting.
- Congratulations to the Dickinson High School Gators, who have reached the semi-finals to be held in San Antonio this weekend.
- The pedestrian bridge at Paul Hopkins Park is now open to the public. Several members of Council and staff attended the grand opening. The next project at the park is the replacement of the restrooms.
- The new animal shelter is almost open, and the date for a ribbon-cutting ceremony is being determined.

- Condolences to the family of John Hayes on his recent passing-away. Mr. Hayes was a valued long-time employee of the City's Emergency Medical Services department and will be deeply missed by all.
- The railroad crossing on East FM 517 has been repaired again, this time with far better results.
- Thank you to Co-Emergency Management Coordinators Greg Trantham and Derek Hunt for being so informative and communicative about events in the city.
- The Dickinson Police Department has had to handle several unusual events this weeks, and did so with professionalism.
- Council Member Sean Skipworth thanked Dickinson Girls Softball for allowing him the honor of throwing out the first pitch. He encouraged members of the community to volunteer to help such local groups.
- Drainage in Moore's Addition continues to be an issue. The City should devise a plan to address it.
- The Council allocated money this fiscal year to complete a Comprehensive Plan for the City but one has not yet been undertaken.
- Condolences to the family of Kissie Marie Johnson-Dreyer. Ms. Johnson-Dreyer, a bystander during a recent police pursuit was tragically killed during the event.
- The Knights of Columbus fish fries have been well-attended, with 500 people being served dinner on each of the past two weekends.
- The Festival of Lights will be back this year, and as with the 2018 season, it will begin with a day set aside for children with cancer to visit in safety before the crowds attend on subsequent days.
- The Italian Festival will be held this Saturday on the City Hall grounds. There will be food, wine, cheese, and good weather is expected.
- Crews are trimming trees and bushes along Hughes Road and leaving the cuttings in the ditch.
- The bridges on Oleander are too narrow for vehicles to safely pass each other.
- Condolences to the family of Elnora Woods on her recent passing-away.
- Last Friday, Council Member King and Mayor Masters attended an event establishing the National Emancipation Trail in Houston. Along with federal and state officials, Council Member King and Mayor Masters were able to witness this historic event. Mayor Masters said that she hopes to have Dickinson included as a part of that trail.
- Congratulations to Council Member King, who has been elected as Vice-Chair of the Houston-Galveston Area Council.
- On March 17 at 9:00 a.m., Dickinson Historical Society and Keep Dickinson Beautiful will elevate a sign at Magnolia Cemetery to help preserve it.
- Congratulation to Lewis Little on his 10-year anniversary as pastor of Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church.

- Trash Bash will be held on May 28 at the boat ramp on Highway 3.
- B. Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Revenue & Expenditure Report for Period Ending January 31, 2020 (Finance Director Kristen Woolley).

City Administrator Chris Heard introduced the item and said that it would become a monthly report that is presented to Council. Mayor Masters said that the City's financial reconciliations are now up to date, and Finance Director Kristen Woolley said that revenues and expenditures are currently on track for the year. Council discussed additional data that it would like added to future reports.

#### **ITEM 6.) REPORTS:**

- A. Update on Activities of the Houston-Galveston Area Council (Council Member King).

Council Member King gave an update regarding two H-GAC meetings that were held on February 18, 2020 and thanked City Administrator Chris Heard for attending the meetings.

- B. Update on Activities of the Dickinson Bayou Watershed Partnership (Council Member Decker).

Council Member Decker informed Council that there was no quorum present for the February 18 meeting of the Dickinson Bayou Watershed Partnership. The next meeting is scheduled for March 17.

- C. Update on Activities of the Dickinson Economic Development Corporation (Dickinson Economic Development Corporation Chief Executive Officer Scott Jones).

Dickinson Economic Development Corporation Chief Executive Officer Scott Jones provided an update to Council and addressed questions.

- D. Presentation of Dickinson Fire Marshal's Office's Annual Racial Profiling Report as it Relates to Senate Bill 1074 (Racial Profiling) for Calendar Year 2019 as Required by Article 2.134 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure (Fire Marshal Burt Heddles).

Fire Marshal Burt Heddles said that the Fire Marshal's Office has been exempted from the requirement to provide this report.

- E. Presentation of Dickinson Police Department's Annual Racial Profiling Report as it Relates to Senate Bill 1074 (Racial Profiling) for Calendar Year 2019 as Required by Article 2.134 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure (Police Chief Ron Morales).



Police Captain Melvin Mason presented the Dickinson Police Department's Annual Racial Profiling Report, which shows the Department to be in full compliance and with no deficiencies. Council Member King applauded the findings and said that everyone should be proud of the Department.

F. City Administrator's and Public Works Report (City Administrator Chris Heard).

City Administrator Chris Heard provided an update to Council and addressed questions. Mr. Heard also discussed an upcoming project of Dickinson Management District No. 1, which is to conduct a community survey that Mr. Heard will help prepare. The results, he said, will be available in 90-180 days.

Dickinson Independent School District and the City of Dickinson are working together to help encourage everyone to respond to the 2020 Census.

Mr. Heard concluded his remarks by addressing questions concerning the status of hiring for vacant employee and department head positions.

**ITEM 7.) PUBLIC COMMENTS:** At this time, any person with city-related business may speak to the Council. In compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, The City Council may not deliberate. **Comments from the public should be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes per individual speaker.**

Cedrick Bradley – Mr. Bradley presented his business and public service idea for a flavor-infused water production facility. He said that he is a professional chef and entrepreneur, and that, as a graduate of Dickinson High School, he would like to open his business in Dickinson and have the City's support.

Jerry Armstrong, 4901 46th Street, Dickinson, Texas – Mr. Armstrong said that he does not have water service at his property and questioned how he could then have trash service, given that the trash service is billed through the water bill. He also recommended that Trash Bash consider separating metal that it collects during its annual clean-up, and then selling the metal for recycling.

**ITEM 8.) CONSENT AGENDA: CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

The following items are considered routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be a separate discussion on these items unless a Council member requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and discussed after the consent agenda.

Council Member Deats asked that Item 8A be removed from the consent agenda and discussed after the consent agenda.

B. Approval of Amended Minutes of the Special Council Meeting of February 4, 2020.

C. Resolution Number 1823-2020 – **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS, RATIFYING THE ACTIONS OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON IN EXECUTING A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO THE CONNECT TRANSIT APPLICATION TO THE FY2020 COORDINATED CALL FOR PROJECTS, RURAL DISCRETIONARY (RD) PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF PREAMBLE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

D. Resolution Number 1824-2020 – **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS, DETERMINING THAT A COUNCIL MEMBER OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON MAY SERVE AS A VOLUNTEER FOR AN ORGANIZATION THAT PROTECTS THE HEALTH, SAFETY, OR WELFARE OF THE CITY.**

Council Member King made a motion to approve Items 8B, 8C, and 8D, and Council Member Skipworth seconded the motion. There being no discussion, Mayor Masters called for the vote.

**VOTE:**

6 AYES (Suderman, Skipworth, Wilson, Deats, Decker, King)

0 NAYS

**MOTION PASSED**

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of February 11, 2020.

City Secretary Alun Thomas explained the need to consider this Item separately, which is to correct an error in the captioning of two of the proposed City Charter Amendments. Following the discussion, Council Member Deats made a motion to approve Item 8A as amended to correct the errors, and Council Member King seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Mayor Masters called for the vote.

**VOTE:**

6 AYES (Suderman, Skipworth, Wilson, Deats, Decker, King)

0 NAYS

**MOTION PASSED**

Mayor Masters then moved to Item 11A.

**ITEM 11.) EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The City Council will now hold a closed executive meeting pursuant to the provision of Chapter 551, Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes annotated, in accordance with the authority contained in:

- A. Section 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney regarding pending litigation and matters in which the duty of the City Attorney requires to be discussed in closed meeting.

Mayor Masters recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 8:17 p.m., and reconvened the regular meeting at 8:33 p.m.

**ITEM 9.) CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING: SUP-18-1877, A Request for a Specific Use Permit, for a "Church" Located at 4200 42nd Street, Dickinson, Texas 77539, Currently Zoned General Commercial "GC".**

Mayor Masters opened the public hearing at 8:33 p.m.

- A. Staff Presentation

Interim Director of Community Development S.R. Burgess presented the request and said that it complies with the City's codes. The occupant load for the building has been determined by the Fire Marshal to be 128.

- B. Those in Favor

Ron, a representative from the church, spoke on behalf of the Applicant and in support of the request. He informed Council of the history of the church and spoke of its many community assistance programs.

- C. Those Opposed

None.

- D. Applicant's Rebuttal

None.

- E. Adjourn Public Hearing

Mayor Masters adjourned the public hearing at 8:37 p.m.

**ITEM 10.) CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING: Ordinance Number XXX-2020 (Zoning Case SUP-18-1877) – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS, AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY, ORDINANCE NUMBER 420-2001,**



AS HERETOFORE AMENDED, TO GRANT SPECIFIC USE PERMIT NUMBER SUP-18-1877 ALLOWING THE APPLICANT TO USE THE PROPERTY FOR A CHURCH; SUCH PROPERTY BEING LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS ± 0.244 ACRES, ABSTRACT 78 R HALL SURVEY TRACT 1, ACRES 0.244, MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS 4200 42ND STREET, GENERALLY LOCATED SOUTH OF EAST FM 517 AND EAST OF NICHOLS STREET IN THE CITY OF DICKINSON, GALVESTON COUNTY, TEXAS, PRESENTLY ZONED GENERAL COMMERCIAL ("GC"); PROVIDING FOR THE INCORPORATION OF PREAMBLE; DIRECTING A CHANGE ACCORDINGLY IN THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY; PROVIDING A PENALTY OF AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000 FOR EACH DAY OF VIOLATION HEREOF; AND PROVIDING A REPEALER CLAUSE, A SAVINGS CLAUSE, A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (First of Three Readings)

Council Member Deats made a motion to approve the first reading of the Ordinance, and Council Member Suderman seconded the motion. Following a brief discussion about the sufficiency of the parking spaces on the property, Mayor Masters called for the vote.

**VOTE:**

5 AYES (Suderman, Skipworth, Deats, Decker, King)

1 NAY (Wilson)

**MOTION PASSED**

**ITEM 11.) EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The City Council will now hold a closed executive meeting pursuant to the provision of Chapter 551, Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes annotated, in accordance with the authority contained in:

B. Section 551.074 – Personnel Matter – Discussion to Deliberate the Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline or Dismissal of the City Administrator.

Mayor Masters recessed the regular meeting at 8:42 p.m.

**ITEM 12.) RECONVENE**

Mayor Masters reconvened the regular meeting at 9:51 p.m.

**ITEM 13.) CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING:** Matters Discussed in Executive Session.

None.

**ITEM 14.) ADJOURN**

Council Member Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 p.m., and Council Member King seconded the motion. There being no discussion, Mayor Masters called for the vote.

**VOTE:**

6 AYES (Suderman, Skipworth, Wilson, Deats, Decker, King)

0 NAYS


**MOTION PASSED**

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this the 24th day of March, 2020.

**ATTEST:**

  
Alun W. Thomas, City Secretary



  
Julie Masters, Mayor